

1. Apparatus for storing a parcel comprising:
a storage locker;
a lock coupled to said storage locker and configured to secure said storage locker in a closed state;

5 a key for accessing said storage locker;
wherein said key is configured to change after said storage locker is accessed with said key.

10 2. The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said key is synchronized with a key accessible at a location that is remote from said lock.

15 3. The apparatus according to Claim 2 further comprising a network selectively coupled between said remote location and said lock configured to allow communication between said remote location and said lock.

4. The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein:
said lock is a mechanical lock and said key is a password for accessing a physical key that opens said lock.

20 5. The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein:
said lock is an electronic lock.

6. The apparatus according to Claim 5 wherein:
said key is a card key.

7. The apparatus according to Claim 6 wherein:
said card key is a smart card.

8. The apparatus according to Claim 6 wherein:
said card key is an integrated circuit card.

9. The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein:
said lock is a biometric lock and said key is a biometric key.

10. The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein:
said storage locker includes environmental controls.

11. The apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising:
a plurality of said storage lockers.

12. The apparatus according to claim 11 wherein:
a dimension of each of at least two of said storage lockers is different.

13. The apparatus according to claim 11 wherein:

said key is capable of accessing a plurality of said storage lockers.

14. The apparatus according to claim 11 wherein:

at least two of said plurality of storage lockers are secured by a common lock.

5

15. The apparatus according to claim 11 further comprising:

a master key configured to open at least two of said plurality of storage lockers.

16. A method of delivering a parcel for receipt by a consumer, said method comprising:

placing said parcel in a storage locker,

locking said storage locker;

wherein said storage locker is accessible with a key; and,

changing said key subsequent to said key being used.

10

15

17. The method according to Claim 16 further comprising:

synchronizing said key with another key that is accessible at a location that is remote from said lock.

18. The method according to Claim 16 further comprising:

using said key to retrieve another key;

unlocking said lock with said another key.

20

19. The method according to Claim 16 further comprising:
contacting a central system using a delivery management device; and,
retrieving said key from said central system.

5 20. The method according to Claim 16 further comprising:
contacting a central system with a delivery management device and logging said delivery.

10 21. The method according to Claim 20 wherein:
said logging includes providing a parcel identification and a storage locker identification
to said central system.

15 22. The method according to Claim 21 further comprising:
said central system determining said key using said storage locker identification; and
said central system forwarding said key and said storage locker identification for receipt
by said consumer.

23. The method according to Claim 21 further comprising:
said central system updating a status of said storage locker.

20 24. The method according to Claim 21 further comprising:
said central system providing said consumer with at least said storage locker
identification.

25. The method according to Claim 24 further comprising:

said central system providing said consumer with said key.

26. The method according to Claim 24 further comprising:

said system verifying that said identification was sent to said consumer.

27. The method according to Claim 24 further comprising:

said system verifying that said identification was received by said consumer.

28. The method according to Claim 16 further comprising:

said storage locker registering with a central system;

wherein said registration includes providing a status of said storage locker.

29. The method according to Claim 28 wherein said registration further comprises:

providing an initial access key for said storage locker.

30. The method according to Claim 28 further comprising:

said storage locker updating said status subsequent to said storage locker being opened.

31. The method according to Claim 25 further comprising:

said storage locker updating said status subsequent to said storage locker being locked for a predetermined period of time.

32. The method according to Claim 31 further comprising:
said storage locker changing said key subsequent to said storage locker being locked for
said predetermined period of time.

5 33. The method according to Claim 16 further comprising:
a central system having another key synchronized with said key; and,
said central system changing said another key to keep said another key synchronized with
said key.

10 34. A method for delivering a parcel from a sender to a consumer, said method comprising:
said sender providing said parcel and a depot selection to a delivery agent;
said delivery agent delivering said parcel to said depot;
subsequent to arriving at said depot, said delivery agent selecting a storage locker in
which to place said parcel and placing said parcel into said storage locker;
15 subsequent to placing said parcel into said storage locker, said delivery agent providing a
parcel identification and a storage locker identification to a central system;
said central system causing said consumer to be contacted and provided with said depot
selection, said storage locker identification, and a key for accessing said storage locker;
said consumer arriving at said depot and using said key to retrieve said parcel from said
20 storage locker.

35. Apparatus for storing a parcel comprising:

a storage locker;

an electronic combination lock coupled to said storage locker and configured to secure said storage locker in a closed state, wherein said lock is configured to unlock when a

predetermined key is entered;

wherein said key that unlocks said combination lock is configured to change upon being used to unlock said lock; and

wherein said key is synchronized with a key accessible at a location that is remote from said lock.

36. The apparatus according to Claim 29 wherein said remote location is in communication with said lock via a network.

37. A system for delivering a parcel to a consumer comprising:

means for delivering said parcel to a depot,

means for storing said parcel at said depot;

means for identifying said means for storing;

means for determining a key for accessing said means for storing;

wherein said means for determining is associated with said means for identifying; and

means for communicating said means for identifying and said key to said consumer.